

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In view of the amendments and remarks herein, favorable reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested. By this Amendment, claims 1-47 have been canceled and new claims 48-56 have been added. Thus, claims 48-56 are pending for further examination.

Applicant has noted the requirement for a new declaration and the new declaration will be submitted as soon as it is available from the inventor.

With respect to the IDS issues raised in the Office Action and in the accompanying Requirement for Information (to which this paper also responds), Applicant respectfully points out that many references have been cited in the numerous Information Disclosure Statements (IDS) filed in this case. Applicant also notes that the IDS dated October 26, 2001, describes, in the text thereof, the history and prior art leading up to the development of the electronic registration system (ERS) that is the subject of the related applications cited on page one of the instant specification. The related applications have resulted in the issuance of several patents, including the '719, '774 and '421 patents cited in the double patenting rejection. These issued patents generally describe the system that was implemented in 1996, and therefore should be responsive to the Requirement for Information. The ERS system has been implemented by a company known as SIRAS.com, a wholly owned subsidiary of Nintendo of America. In addition, Applicant has filed an IDS herewith citing all of the issued patents from the related applications. Applicant has already cited all of the prior art from the

related applications, as well as all other known and material prior art in this application, including the Discount Store News article cited by the Examiner in the Section 102 rejection (*see* April 9, 2001 IDS). Applicant understands that the Examiner has indicated that many of the references submitted by Applicant have been misplaced by the Patent Office, and that the Examiner is attempting to locate the misplaced references. Applicant is also in the process of obtaining additional copies of the many references misplaced by the Patent Office, so that duplicate copies can be provided directly to the Examiner. A supplemental response will be filed with these duplicates as soon as they are all available. If the Examiner has any questions regarding this response to the IDS issues and/or Requirement for Information, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney.

Claims 1-47 have been rejected under the doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,018,719; 5,978,774 and 6,463,421. Applicant has canceled original claims 1-47 herein and added new claims 48-56 which are believed to patentably distinguish the prior ERS patents of Applicant cited by the Examiner. Thus, Applicant does not currently believe that a Terminal Disclaimer required.

Claims 1-47 have also been rejected under 35 USC 102 as being anticipated by Discount Store News. The new claims herein are believed to patentably distinguish the system described in this reference. For example, this reference does not describe the post-sale registration process defined in new independent claim 48. Thus, it is believed that this rejection has now been overcome.

JUNGER
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In view of the amendments and remarks herein, favorable reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully. Should the Examiner have any questions, he is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the phone number below.

Respectfully submitted,

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